



STATE APPEAL BOARD MEETING – APRIL 2015

Meeting. The [State Appeal Board](#) met April 6, 2015, in Des Moines. The Board received a legal update from Assistant Attorney General Meghan Gavin. She indicated there were 13 letters from one citizen regarding local budgets in Ringgold County. Five of the letters were for public records. The remaining eight letters all related to different local budgets within Ringgold County. Ms. Gavin drafted a letter on behalf of the Board for its review, explaining the Board's authority and why the Board will take no action regarding the letters. Ms. Gavin also provided an update on two cases pending judicial review:

- Sioux County budget – the protestor filed for judicial review of the State Appeal Board action in June 2014. No action has been taken by the District Court.
- A lawyer filed for judicial review by the District Court in Linn County regarding State Appeal Board action of its approval of payment to him for a juvenile court case.

Board Action. The Board took the following actions:

- Approved 11 claims filed under Iowa Code chapter [25](#) in the amount of approximately \$53,000 and denied three claims that totaled about \$4,300. Approximately 94.5% of the total amount approved was for three claims:
 - [University of Iowa](#) – Grant accounting for services rendered to the Department of Human Services ([DHS](#)). The original payment of about \$15,600 was returned in error to the DHS. Approximately 50.0% of the amount was from the General Fund while 50.0% of the amount was from federal funds.
 - American Civil Liberties Union ([ACLU](#)) for court-ordered legal fees. A lawsuit was filed against the City of Red Oak/Police Chief regarding the flag desecration statute. The State law was found to be unconstitutional by the federal court. The [Office of the Attorney General](#) represented the local government. The amount paid from the General Fund was approximately \$29,000. The local government incurred some legal expenses as well.
 - Basic Animal Rescue Training ([BART](#)) for a training event provided to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship ([IDALS](#)). The amount claimed from the General Fund was approximately \$5,400.
- Approved five tort claims filed under Iowa Code chapter [669](#) for \$37,300. Four of these claims were related to state vehicle accidents. The vehicles were assigned to the DHS (Glenwood Resource Center), the Department of Transportation ([DOT](#)), the [Board of Regents](#) (University of Iowa), and the Department of Administrative Services ([DAS](#)). The Board denied tort claims that totaled approximately \$7.0 million.
- Approved a legal settlement with a former patient of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics ([UIHC](#)). A surgical retractor was left inside the patient; a second surgery was required to remove the instrument. The total sum approved was \$60,000, with 60.0% (\$36,000) paid from the State General Fund and 40.0% (\$24,000) paid by UIHC physicians.

Next Meeting. The next regular meeting of the State Appeal Board is scheduled for May 4, 2015.

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